# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:985
ANSWERED ON:06.03.2007
PROMOTING INDUSTRIES IN RURAL AREAS
Jindal Shri Naveen

**Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Government has made any assessment regarding the scope of promoting industries in the rural areas ;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the measures taken by the Government to generate greater employment potential by promoting industries in the rural areas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

## Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR)

(a)to(d) : To develop and promote village industries, including agro industries, in the rural areas of the country, the Government has been implementing the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) through the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC). Under REGP, village industries are set up based on project proposals prepared by the applicant-entrepreneurs, for which technical assistance is provided to them by the KVIC and the State/Union Territory Khadi and Village Industries Boards (KVIBs). However, separate assessment regarding the scope of promoting industries in rural areas is not conducted under this programme. Also, the Government has requested the Planning Commission to set up an Experts Committee to undertake a study for identifying industrially backward districts in the country so as to facilitate employment generation through industrial development in these areas. Employment generated under REGP during 2002-03 to 2006-07 is as under:

| Year | Employment generated (in nos.) |
|---|---|
| 2002-03 | 361,005 |
| 2003-04 | 471,458 |
| 2004-05 | 530,025 |
| 2005-06 | 567,676 |
| 2006-07 | 257,091 |

As on 31.1.2007